

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 AF-06 ARA-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 RSC-01

OIC-02 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9074

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0405

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNSC PFOR JA

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SECURITY COUNCIL MEETING IN TOKYO

1. JAPANESE MISSION TO UN HAS ON TWO RECENT OCCASIONS
SIGNALLED THAT JAPANESE DECISION ON WHETHER TO SEEK SECURITY
COUNCIL MEETING IN TOKYO IN AUGUST 1975 IS IMMINENT.
JAPAN WILL BE PRESIDENT OF SC DURING AUGUST.

2. COUNSELLOR IGUCHI TOLD POLCOUNS FEB 3 ISSUE VERY MUCH
ALIVE AND HINTED THAT ONLY CHANCE OF HEADING OFF POSITIVE
DECISION WAS STRONG HIGH-LEVEL PRESSURE BY US. IGUCHI
REFLECTED FACT JAPANESE MISSION IN NEW YORK HAS GIVEN
MUCH THOUGHT TO POSSIBLE AGENDA WITH VIEW TO PRODUCING
SCENARIO THAT WOULD AVOID DANGERS AND PRESENT DOMESTIC
POLITICAL PLUSES FOR JAPANESE GOVT. IN PARTICULAR,
STAFF IS CONCERNED LEST JAPAN AND US SHOULD "VOTE AGAINST
EACH OTHER". IGUCHI ALSO EMPHASIZED THAT ANY POWER
CASTING VETO IN TOKYO WOULD ANTAGONIZE JAPANESE PUBLIC.

3. IN ADDITION TO OUR TRADITIONAL ARGUMENTS, POLCOUNS
EMPHASIZED THAT IT IMPOSSIBLE EVEN WITH CAREFULLY RESTRICTED
AGENDA TO AVOID SURPRISES IN SC. PANAMANIAN HAD NOT BEEN
ABLE TO CONTROL COURSE OF MEETING IN PANAMA CITY. ANY MEMBER
WISHING TO PERCIPITATE TROUBLE COULD FIND WAYS OF DOING SO.
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ON PERSONAL BASIS, POLCOUNS EMPHASIZED THAT AMERICAN PUBLIC

ALREADY DISTURBED BY DEVELOPMENTS IN OTHER UN FORUMS WOULD BE SENSITIVE TO ANY DEPARTURES BY SC FROM RELATIVELY SERIOUS AND CONSTRUCTIVE STANDARDS OBSERVED SINCE LATE 1973.

4. IGUCHI INDICATED JAPANESE OFFICIALS WOULD ATTEMPT TO USE TOKYO MEETING TO ENHANCE PUBLIC CONFIDENCE IN JAPAN IN WORTH OF UN. IGUCHI ARGUED THAT JAPANESE PUBLIC EXTREMELY INTERESTED IN UN. HOWEVER, NEGATIVE DEVELOPMENTS IN UN SYSTEM, INCLUDING PROSPECTIVE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE RESULTS ADVERSE TO JAPAN'S VITAL FISHING INTERESTS COULD LEAD TO PEAKING OF JAPANESE DISILLUSIONMENT WITHIN NEXT TWO YEARS.

5. JAPANESE MINISTER OHTAKA TOLD AMB SCHAUFLE FEB 6 THAT BECAUSE OF "INCREASING TALK" IN NEW YORK ABOUT POSSIBLE MEETING, JMWUN HAS ASKED TOKYO FOR DEFINITE DECISION ASAP.

6. ACTION RECOMMENDED: WE ARE CONVINCED THAT LEFT ALONE GOJ WILL OPT FOR HOLDING MEETING. WE RECOMMEND THAT DEPT CONSIDER AUTHORIZING EMBASSY TOKYO SOONEST TO MAKE STRONG HIGH-LEVEL DEMARCHE TO GOJ. REPRESENTATIONS SHOULD EMPHASIZE THAT THERE IS NO WAY TO AVOID SUBSTANTIAL RISK OF EVENTS THAT WOULD DAMAGE SC IN WORLD PUBLIC OPINION AND THAT MEETING WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO US-JAPANESE RELATIONS. JAPAN SHOULD PERHAPS BE TOLD OFFICIALLY THAT WE WOULD PUBLICLY OPPOSE MEETING IN TOKYO IF PROPOSED, EVEN THOUGH SC DECISION ON WHETHER TO MEET OUTSIDE HEADQUARTERS IS PROCEDURAL NOT SUBJECT TO VETO. USUN PLANS TO SPEAK ALONG THESE LINES TO AMB SAITO SOONEST.
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